

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /062 W

-----003358 232141Z /62

R 231416Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7299

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT ZA

SUBJ: FORMER UPP PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE ARRESTED

1. ALFRED CHAMBESHI, ONE OF THE FORMER UNITED PROGRESSIVE PARTY LEADERS WHO REJOINED THE UNITED NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UNIP) LAST SEPTEMBER ALONG WITH SIMON KAPWEPWE, SAS ARRESTED WITH 17 OTHER PERSONS MORNING OF DECEMBER 22 FOR HOLDING AN ILLEGAL MEETING. ACCORDING TO A COPPERBELT POLICE SPOKESMAN, CHAMBESHI AND THE OTHERS WERE PICKED UP FOLLOWING A TIP THAT THEY WERE HOLDING A MEETING WITHOUT THE REQUIRED POLICE PERMIT. CHAMBESHI WAS RELEASED ON BAIL SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARREST AND IS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN COURT DECEMBER 30.

2. IN A DECEMBER 15 PRIMARY ELECTION TO SELECT CANDIDATES TO CONTEST THE ROAN PARLIAMENTARY SEAT RESIGNED BY ARTHUR PIERS, CHAMBESHI RAN THIRD IN A FIELD OF FIVE BEHIND TWO UNIP STALWARTS, AND IS THUS ELIGIBLE TO STAND IN THE JANUARY 26 BY-ELECTION. PRIOR TO THE BY-ELECTION, HOWEVER, THE UNIP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MUST REVIEW CANDIDATES TO DETERMINE IF ANY OF THEM SHOULD BE BARRIED ON A VARIETY OF GROUNDS SPECIFIED IN PARTY ELECTION PROCEDURES.

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3. COMMENT: COPPERBELT PARTY OFFICIALS HAD SOUNDED WARNINGS AGAINST WHAT THEY REFER TO AS "DARK CORNER MEETINGS" DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGNS. CHAMBESHI'S RELATIVELY POOR SHOWING IN THE PRIMARY, FOLLOWED BY THIS INCIDENT, DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR HIS (AND BY EXTENSION, THE UPP) ATTEMPT AT A POLITICAL COMEBACK. THE FACT THAT THE POLICE RECEIVED A TIP-OFF ON THE UNPUBLICIZED

MEETING ALSO INDICATES THAT THE CURRENT ESTABLISHMENT IN THE CONSTITUENCY WILL DO WHAT IT CAN TO THWART ANY SUCH COMEBACK. WHILE THE ACTION AGAINST CHAMBESHI MAY OR MAY NOT BE A CASE OF POLITICAL HARRASSMENT, THE MEETING IN ANY EVENT APPARENTLY WAS NOT HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH LEGAL PROCEDURES. LOW

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LEADERS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA03926
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770480-0381
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771219/aaaaapun.tel
Line Count: 68
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: df720efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 133132
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FORMER UPP PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE ARRESTED
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ZA, UPP, (CHAMBESHI, ALFRED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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